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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Walter DEMUTH et al.

Title: METHOD OF FORMING FLAT-TUBE INSERTION SLOTS IN A HEADER TUBE

Appl. No.: 10/051,374

Filing Date: 01/22/2002

Examiner: M. Jimenez

Art Unit: 3726

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 7, 2003, please amend the application identified above as follows:

In the Claims:

Kindly add the following new claims:

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13. (New) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sawcut is substantially linear and has a first length a_1 and a first width b_1 .
 14. (New) A method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the slot punch has a larger length a_2 and a larger width b_2 and the ratio of sawcut length a_1 to slot punch length a_2 is between approximately 0.2 and approximately 0.95, and/or the ratio of sawcut width b_1 to slot punch width b_2 is between approximately 0.3 and approximately 0.95.
 15. (New) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the header tube has a wall having a comparatively thick wall thickness suitable for use in a heat exchanger